



**KANSAS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT**  
BILL GRAVES, GOVERNOR  
Clyde D. Graeber, Secretary

---

For Immediate Release  
July 13, 2001

Contact: Mike Heideman  
785-296-5795

### **Grants Awarded to Rural Health Networks**

The Kansas Rural Health Options Project (KRHOP), a coalition that includes the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the Kansas Hospital Association, the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, and the Kansas Medical Society, has awarded grants totaling \$337,800 to nine rural health networks across the state.

The grants provide financial assistance for quality improvement initiatives and emergency medical system networking and integration among the state's rural health networks. Last year KRHOP provided a total of \$399,260 in grant funds to seven networks that impacted 34 rural communities across the state.

The goal of the KRHOP is to enhance local and regional collaborative planning and network development to improve rural health care delivery in Kansas.

"Kansas has been at the national forefront of rural health network development," said Secretary of Health and Environment Clyde D. Graeber. "The vision of the Rural Health Options Project is to support the continued development and implementation of rural health networks and the integration of emergency medical services."

The grant recipients and awards are as follows:

- **Clay County EMS & Board of County Commissioners (\$25,000) to develop the Republican Valley Area Emergency Response System Plan, including the development of a data collection network, updated policies/procedures, recruitment/retention plans, and a feasibility study of billing and administrative consolidation.**
  - Clay County EMS, Clay Center
  - Miltonvale EMS, Miltonvale
  - Linn City Ambulance, Linn
  - Clifton City Ambulance, Clifton
  - Clyde Ambulance, Clyde

-MORE-

## ADD 1 - Grants Awarded to Rural Health Networks

- **EMS/APIC Network Task Force (\$25,000) to collaborate with area nursing schools to develop curricula for “bridge programs” that will allow cross training of nurses and paramedics.**
  - Butler County EMS, El Dorado
  - Dickinson County EMS, Abilene
  - Ellsworth County Hospital, Ellsworth
  - Geary County Hospital, Junction City
  - Greenwood County EMS, Eureka
  - Greenwood County Hospital, Eureka
  - Junction City Fire Department, Junction City
  - Kiowa District Hospital, Kiowa
  - Lenexa Fire Department, Lenexa
  - Newman Memorial County Hospital, Emporia
  - Newton Fire/EMS Department, Newton
  - Newton Medical Center, Newton
  - Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita
  - William Newton Medical Center, Winfield
  
- **Four Rivers Community Health Alliance (\$25,000) to assess and develop an action plan for the training and continuing education needs of EMS and hospital emergency room personnel in Cowley, Harper and Sumner Counties.**
  - Cowley County Health Department, Winfield
  - Sumner Community Health Organization, Wellington
  - Preferred Medical Associates, Winfield
  - Sumner County Health Department, Wellington
  - South Central Kansas Regional Medical Center, Arkansas City
  - Sumner County Mental Health Center & Sumner Youth Services, Inc., Wellington
  - Harper Hospital District #5, Harper
  - The William Newton Memorial Hospital, Winfield
  - Sumner County District #1 Hospital, Caldwell
  - Sumner Regional Medical Center, Wellington
  
- **Geary Health Council (\$25,000) for the development of a case management program to help coordinate health services to traditionally under-served populations in the council service area.**
  - Geary Community Hospital, Junction City
  - City of Junction City
  - Geary County
  - Pawnee Mental Health, Manhattan
  - Konza Prairie Health Clinic, Junction City

-MORE-

## ADD 2 - Grants Awarded to Local Health Networks

- **Northeast Kansas Healthcare Network (\$46,000) to establish a cooperative arrangement for training opportunities, to establish a centralized credentialing mechanism, and to promote network-based quality improvement systems.**
  - St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Topeka
  - Nemaha Valley Community Hospital, Seneca
  - Holton Community Hospital, Holton
  - Jefferson County Memorial Hospital, Winchester
  - Northeast Kansas Center for Health and Wellness, Horton
  - Jackson County EMS
  - Seneca EMT Association
  - South Brown County EMS
  - Washburn University School of Nursing
- **Northwest Kansas Health Alliance (\$66,800) to implement a network quality program focusing on data sharing, creation of an Internet-based quality education resource, recognition programs, peer review programs, and a patient satisfaction measurement system.**
  - Hays Medical Center, Hays
  - Rawlins County Hospital, Atwood
  - Grisell Memorial Hospital, Ransom
  - Edwards County Hospital, Kinsley
  - Plainville Rural Hospital, Plainville
  - Cheyenne County Hospital, St. Francis
  - Graham County Hospital, Hill City
  - Lane County Hospital, Dighton
  - Kiowa County Memorial Hospital, Greensburg
  - Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington
  - Logan County Hospital, Oakley
  - Plainville Rural Hospital District No. 1, Plainville
- **Southeast Kansas Health Alliance (\$25,000) to conduct an EMS financial analysis and explore EMS service integration in a three-county area.**
  - Labette County Medical Center, Parsons
  - Crawford County Emergency Medical Services
- **Southwest Kansas Rural Health Network (\$75,000) to expand services for Agricultural and Occupational Health, expand distance learning educational programs for pre-hospital and hospital personnel, and to provide bilingual services via a mobile health clinic.**
  - St. Catherine Hospital, Garden City
  - Ashland Health Center, Ashland
  - Kearny County Hospital, Lakin
  - Wichita County Health Center, Leoti
  - Hamilton County Hospital, Syracuse
  - Meade County Hospital, Meade
  - Stevens County Hospital, Hugoton

### ADD 3 - Grants Awarded to Rural Health Networks

- **Sunflower Health Network (\$25,000) to promote networking and integration among EMS providers in the network service area and to integrate activities into the state EMS and Trauma Plans.**
  - Memorial Hospital, Abilene
  - Republic County Hospital, Belleville
  - Mitchell County Community Hospital, Beloit
  - Clay County Hospital, Clay Center
  - Cloud County Health Center, Concordia
  - Ellsworth County Medical Center, Ellsworth
  - Herington Municipal Hospital, Herington
  - Hillsboro Community Medical Center, Hillsboro
  - Lincoln County Hospital, Lincoln
  - Lindsborg Community Hospital, Lindsborg
  - Jewell County Hospital, Mankato
  - Memorial Hospital, McPherson
  - Ottawa County Hospital, Minneapolis
  - Osborne County Memorial Hospital, Osborne
  - Saint Francis Academy, Salina
  - Salina Regional Health Center, Salina
  - Smith County Memorial Hospital, Smith Center
  - and EMS providers throughout the network service area

Project funding is made possible through a grant from the federal Office of Rural Health Policy to KDHE under the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program. KDHE has applied for a third year of funding, and expects an announcement of awards in early August.